

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for recording still picture data (VOB) and still picture group management information (VOBGI) for managing N still picture data (VOB) as a still picture group (VOBG) onto a storage medium, where N is an integer number equal to or larger than one, wherein said still picture group management information (VOBGI) includes a first recording time (F\_RECTM) at which the still picture data (VOB) in said still picture group (VOBG) was recorded first and a last recording time (L\_RECTM) at which the still picture data (VOB) in said still picture group (VOBG) was recorded last, said method comprising the steps of:

comparing a recording time (RECTM) of said still picture data (VOB) with said first recording time (F\_RECTM) stored in said still picture group management information (VOBGI) corresponding to the still picture group (VOBG) belonging to said still picture data (VOB); and

if said recording time (RECTM) is earlier ( $RECTM < F\_RECTM$ ) than said first recording time (F\_RECTM), replacing the content of said first recording time (F\_RECTM) by said recording time (RECTM) and recording thereof.

2. A method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

comparing a recording time (RECTM) of said still picture data (VOB) with said last recording times (L\_RECTM) stored in said still picture group management information (VOBGI)

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corresponding to the still picture group (VOBG) belonging to said still picture data (VOB); and

if said recording time (RECTM) is later (RECTM>L\_RECTM) than said last recording time (L\_RECTM), replacing the content of said last recording time (L\_RECTM) by said recording time (RECTM) and recording thereof.

3. An apparatus for recording still picture data (VOB) and still picture group management information (VOBGI) for managing N still picture data (VOB) as a still picture group (VOBG) onto a storage medium, where N is an integer number equal to or larger than one, wherein said still picture group management information (VOBGI) includes a first recording time (F\_RECTM) at which the still picture data (VOB) in said still picture group (VOBG) was recorded first and a last recording time (L\_RECTM) at which the still picture data (VOB) in said still picture group (VOBG) was recorded last, said apparatus comprising:

means for comparing a recording time (RECTM) of said still picture data (VOB) with said first recording times (F\_RECTM) stored in said still picture group management information (VOBGI) corresponding to the still picture group (VOBG) belonging to said still picture data (VOB); and

means, if said recording time (RECTM) is later (RECTM>L\_RECTM) than said last recording time (L\_RECTM), for replacing the content of said last recording time (L\_RECTM) by said recording time (RECTM) and recording thereof.

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4. An apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising:

means for comparing a recording time (RECTM) of said still picture data (VOB) with said last recording times (L\_RECTM) stored in said still picture group management information (VOBGI) corresponding to the still picture group (VOBG) belonging to said still picture data (VOB); and

if said recording time (RECTM) is later (RECTM>L\_RECTM) than said last recording time (L\_RECTM), the content of said last recording times (L\_RECTM) is replaced by said recording time (RECTM) and recorded.

5. A computer-readable storage medium storing thereon a procedure for controlling a computer to record still picture data (VOB) and still picture group management information (VOBGI) for managing N still picture data (VOB) as a still picture group (VOBG) onto a storage medium, where N is an integer number equal to or larger than one, wherein said still picture group management information (VOBGI) includes a first recording time (F\_RECTM) at which the still picture data (VOB) in said still picture group (VOBG) was recorded first and a last recording time (L\_RECTM) at which the still picture data (VOB) in said still picture group (VOBG) was recorded last, said procedure comprising the steps of:

comparing a recording time (RECTM) of said still picture data (VOB) with said first recording time (F\_RECTM) stored in said still picture group management information (VOBGI)

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corresponding to the still picture group (VOBG) belonging to said still picture data (VOB); and

if said recording time (RECTM) is earlier (RECTM<F\_RECTM) than said first recording time (F\_RECTM), replacing the content of said first recording time (F\_RECTM) by said recording time (RECTM) and recording thereof.

6. A computer-readable storage medium according to claim 5, wherein said procedure further comprises the steps of:

comparing a recording time (RECTM) of said still picture data (VOB) with said last recording times (L\_RECTM) stored in said still picture group management information (VOBGI) corresponding to the still picture group (VOBG) belonging to said still picture data (VOB); and

if said recording time (RECTM) is later (RECTM>L\_RECTM) than said last recording time (L\_RECTM), replacing the content of said last recording time (L\_RECTM) by said recording time (RECTM) and recording thereof.

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